THE THEATER IS ALIVE WITH MUSIC.
THE SOUND OF APPLAUSE IS UNENDING.
AHHHH
REWARDED WITH APPLAUSE.
I COULD HEAR THE THEATER'S MUSIC. THAT BEAUTIFUL MUSIC, WHICH I'LL ALWAYS REMEMBER.
*SIGN READS 14 DAYS BEFORE
IT WAS TRULY HARD WORK.
SIGH
ONE WHOLE YEAR OF PRACTICING AS THE

オクターヴ

OCTAVE

鎌谷悠希

STARE

YUTAKA, SHOULDN'T YOU KNOW THIS PART BY NOW!?
GET IT TOGETHER. YOU ARE THE SOLOIST, YOU KNOW...
COME ON~ ARE YOU LOSING YOUR VOICE? DO YOU HAVE A COLD?
わは
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はは

SENSEI, LET'S GO OVER OUR PARTS AGAIN.
YEAH.
QUIT SLACKING OFF.

.....

STOP-! DON'T YOU DARE SAY THAT!
EVEN SO IF YOU KEEP TRYING TO SING SOPRANO DURING PUBERTY YOUR VOICE WILL OBVIOUSLY BECOME HOARSE STOP BEING SO ANGRY
DAMN
WHAT
UGH ISN'T GETTING A DEEPER VOICE SOMETHING THAT'S NATURAL?
THIS WOULD HAPPEN SOONER OR LATER ANYWAY

ACHOO
HEY, YOU SNEEZED!
AH, CHOUYA-SAN.
IF YOU HAVE A COLD, PLEASE JUST GO HOME.
YOU'RE THE LEAD SOLOIST, SO DON'T DISAPPOINT US.

DON'T TAKE IT TO HEART, YUTAKA~
SHE'S JUST BEING HARD ON US, SINCE IT'S SO CLOSE TO THE COMPETITION
BUT SHE SEEMS ESPECIALLY COLD TOWARD ME.
YEAH... MAYBE.

WHEN CHOUYA WAS JUST A FIRST YEAR STUDENT, SHE WAS CHOSEN AS LEAD VOCALS, AND THEN
AND THEN... WHAT HAPPENED?
DURING HER SECOND YEAR, YUTAKA CAME AND TOOK OVER AS LEAD.
HUH!?

I, TOO, HAVE BEEN TRYING MY BEST.
OUCH!
A JOKE, THAT WAS A JOKE!
THIS IS STUPID. CHOUYA ISN'T THAT KIND OF PERSON.
.....I THINK.
BUT I STILL FEEL UPSET ABOUT WHAT SHE SAID TO ME. IT'D BE TROUBLESOME IF I BROUGHT ALL OF THEM DOWN.
I WATCHED YOU ON TV LAST YEAR. IT WAS GREAT.
Y-YEAH
YOUR VOICE IS MUCH MORE GENTLE AND BEAUTIFUL, COMPARED TO THE OTHER KIDS!
SO, YOU'RE GOING TO BE THE LEAD SOLOIST AGAIN AT THE MUSIC COMPETITION THIS YEAR?

OH, RIGHT, WHAT ARE YOU SINGING THIS YEAR?
I ASKED THE TEACHER TO COMPOSE IT, AND ADDED A SOPRANO LEAD AND HARMONY ARRANGE-MENT
IT'S CALLED "DURING SPRING"
BEING ABLE TO SING SOMETHING FROM THE HEART IS SUCH A WONDERFUL THING
IN THE BASS HARMONY WE ADDED A SECTION IN FORTISSIMO
IT LEADS UP TO THE PART WHERE THE HARMONY AND THE LEAD SING TOGETHER AS ONE, AND IT SOUNDS JUST AS IF SPRING HAS ARRIVED

うぉぉ
I'M SO PROUD TO HAVE BROUGHT UP A SON LIKE YOU
YOU WERE ONCE JUST A LITTLE BABY DRINKING MILK, AND CRAWLING ON THE FLOOR. YOU'RE SO ACCOMPLISHED NOW
EVEN MY GRANDMA WAS LOOKING FORWARD TO THE PERFOR-MANCE
SHE SAID IT WOULD BE A PRESENT FOR HER
THERE'S A CHILD WHO IS CURRENTLY IN SECOND GRADE, WHO'S ALSO SINGING IN THE CHOIR.
SHE SAYS THAT SHE WAS INSPIRED BY YOU, YUTAKA.
AND WANTS TO SING WITH YOU ONE DAY.
AH... BUT...

YUTAKA, YOU'RE A BOY. YOU'VE ALMOST REACHED THE TIME WHEN YOU HAVE TO SAY FAREWELL TO BEING A SOPRANO
ズギギギ…
NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS, TRY YOUR BEST WE'LL BE CHEERING FOR YOU!

IF YOU JUST CALM DOWN, THEN YOU SHOULD BE ABLE TO HIT THE NOTES
YUTAKA, THIS SONG IS SUPPOSED TO BE HIGHER BY A KEY
YOU CANNOT SING IT
CANNOT SING IT
CANNOT REACH IT!

SEN-
SEI!
YES?

MY THROAT STILL HURTS, SO I CAN'T SING IT OUT.
CAN I GO DOWN-STAIRS AND PRACTICE BY MYSELF?

OH...
YUTAKA!
YOU HAVE 30 MINUTES

DON'T FORCE YOURSELF
WHATEVER PROBLEMS YOU HAVE, WE'LL BE HERE TO HELP YOU OUT
I AM NOT
FORCING MYSELF!

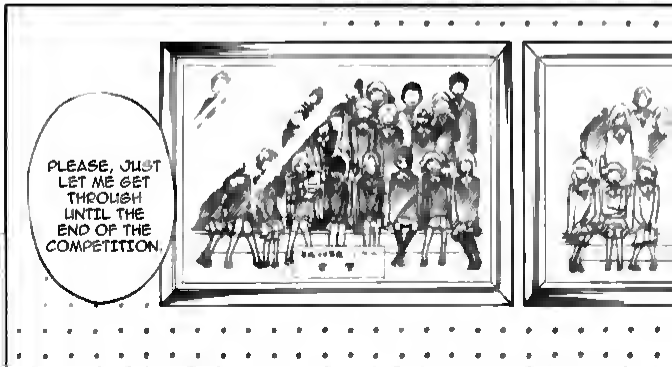
大きな声でハッキリと
13 MORE MINUTES
TEAM
THE WAY PEOPLE LOOK AT ME HAS CHANGED
IT SEEMS THAT THEY'VE ALREADY NOTICED THE CHANGE IN MY VOICE. THEY LOOK SO CONCERNED

WHAT SHOULD I DO? WE'RE GOING TO LOSE IF THIS KEEPS UP...

IN THAT CASE, YOU SHOULD TALK TO YOUR TEACHER, OR YOUR FRIENDS
BUT IT'S SO HARD TO TALK ABOUT THAT'S WHY I FOUND YOU

SOON, I WON'T EVEN BE ABLE TO HEAR YOUR VOICE ANYMORE.
THAT'S NOT A PROBLEM.
AHHH . I USED TO BE A KID WHO COULD TALK TO MIRRORS, BUT ..
SO MY VOICE IS FIN-ISHED....
.....
BUT THAT'S SOME-THING I CANNOT CHANGE.
YOU FINALLY UNDER-STAND.

I HAVE LOST MY SOPRANO VOICE.
WHAT AM I GONNA DO?


PLEASE, JUST LET ME GET THROUGH UNTIL THE END OF THE COMPETITION.

JUST A LITTLE MORE TIME IS ENOUGH.
MALE SO-PRANO PLEASE SING AN OCTAVE HIGHER
EVERY-ONE PLEASE SING ALONG WITH THE LEAD
I DON'T WANT TO DISAPPOINT EVERYONE'S HOPES AND DREAMS
1
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4 3 !
LAAA
I WANT TO SING WITH THAT VOICE!

CHOUYA'S SOPRANO VOICE

UP IN THE SKY.
HER VOICE IS FLYING.
FOLLOWING THE WIND.
WHILE MINE...
IS JUST FALLING DOWN..!
WAIT ...
PLEASE, WAIT A SECOND!

WE CAN'T WAIT ANY-MORE.
YOU'RE GOING TO TAKE OVER MY LEAD.
ABOUT CHANGING LEADS, PLEASE JUST LISTEN TO ME...
THIS IS RIDICULOUS.
THE CHOIR DOESN'T HAVE ANYMORE TIME TO LISTEN.
...AND NEITHER DO I
EHH... WE HAVE TO CHANGE LEADS!?
EVEN THOUGH CHOUYA HAS A GREAT VOICE...
ARE WE STILL GONNA MAKE THE COMPETITION?
ざわ
ざわ
ざわ
BUT DON'T WE HAVE YUTAKA FOR THE LEAD?
IT'S UP TO SENSEI'S DECISION NOW

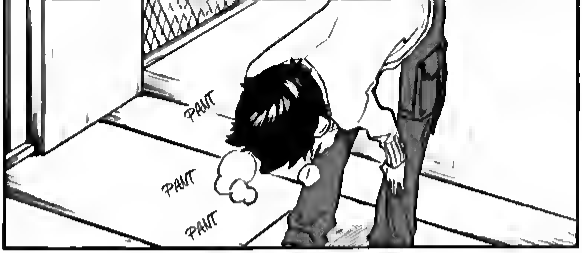
NO MATTER HOW MANY TIMES I TRY TO SING, IT MAKES NO DIFFERENCE ...!
BUT CHOUYA-SAN WILL ALWAYS BE ABLE TO SING SOPRANO
I HAVE ALREADY DISCUSSED WITH CHOUYA WHAT CHOICE I FEEL IS BEST FOR THE CHOIR.
THAT'S RIGHT
I DON'T HAVE ANYMORE TIME LEFT.
THIS IS OUR LAST CHANCE!

TO FLY FREELY IN THE AIR.

IF YOU AREN'T ABLE TO SEE WHAT MAKES YOU HAPPY BEFOREHAND, WOULD YOU BE ABLE TO FIND IT IN THE OUTSIDE WORLD?
FINDING JOY AND HAPPINESS ON THIS EARTH IS A PHENOMENON THAT IS UNEXPLAINABLE.
IT IS SOMETHING PEOPLE DON'T INHERENTLY UNDERSTAND.
THE CHOIR ISN'T JUST ABOUT "FEMALE LEADS."
CAN YOU EVEN UNDERSTAND THE LANGUAGE OF A DUCK?
I COULDN'T FLY WHEN I FIRST TRIED TO, BUT, WHEN I TRIED AGAIN, SUDDENLY I WAS ABLE TO FLY AWAY

WE DON'T HAVE TIME FOR THIS.
STUPID CHOUYA.
QUACK
EVERYTHING THAT WAS MINE HAS BEEN TAKEN AWAY FROM ME.

WHAT IS... THIS VOICE?
AND NOW WITH THIS BROKEN VOICE...
SIGH!
WHOSE VOICE IS THIS INSIDE ME!?


PANT
PANT
PANT

THIS
FEELING

LAA
LAA
PANT
PHEW

IT WILL..

AND
STILL
IT
FEELS
...

ALL THE TIME
OH... I HAVE NOT YET GIVEN ALL...
"THERE IS THE FOLD
SHE COMES HERE BY HERSELF TO PRACTICE.
DON'T YOU AGREE, YUTAKA?
EVEN THOUGH SHE SINGS COMPLETELY DIFFERENT FROM YOU, SHE IS ALSO A TALENTED SOPRANIST.

THIS IS THE LAST COMPETI TION OURING JUNIOR HIGH
I'M SO HAPPY TO BE ABLE TO LEAD THE CHOIR

EVEN IF THE LEAD SINGER IS VERY TALENTED...
FURTHERMORE, THE SKY ABOVE...ONLY WANTS...
IT'S THE HARMONY THAT ALWAYS PULLS EVERYTHING TOGETHER IN THE END.
I'M GOING TO GIVE IT MY ALL.
LIKE I ALWAYS DO.
SO, SING PROUDLY, YUTAKA.

I DON'T WANT THEM TO LOSE HOPE.
I DON'T WANT THE CHOIR TO SUFFER, BECAUSE WE CHANGED LEADS.
.....
I FINALLY REALIZED..
THIS WAS ALL A MIS-UNDER-STANDING WITH CHOUYA-SAN

I'M TERRIFIED OF THE "CHANGES" HAPPENING TO ME, NOW
I NEVER THOUGHT ABOUT THE CHOIR'S AROUT YOUR PROBLEMS I THOUGHT I STILL HAD TIME
I ONLY THOUGHT ABOUT MY OWN PROB-LEMS
I'M SORRY FOR LETTING YOU WORRY
I DION'T THINK I HAD ANYTHING TO SERIOUSLY WORRY ABOUT

IF YOU AREN'T ABLE TO SEE WHAT MAKES YOU HAPPY BEFOREHAND, WOULD YOU BE ABLE TO FIND IT IN THE OUTSIDE WORLD?
THAT WAS FINE

AH...
YOU CAN'T JUST FORCE THINGS ALONG...
IF WE CAN SING IN A THREE PART HARMONY, IT'LL BE PERFECT.
コンあと
HUH?
YUTAKA IS SINGING THE ALTO PART!?

I WILL PRACTICE THIS PART HARD FROM THIS POINT ON, SO PLEASE EXCUSE ME DURING THIS TIME.
ざわ ざわ
BUT IS CHOUYA-SAN STILL SINGING THE LEAD...?
WE ONLY HAVE ONE WEEK LEFT TO IRON OUT ANY PROBLEMS...
IS THIS REALLY OKAY?
IF CHOUYA-SAN IS LEADING, IT'S NO PROBLEM
I DON'T THINK IT WILL TAKE LONG AT ALL FOR THE HARMONY TO CATCH UP TO SPEED
I'M NOT WORRIED AT ALL

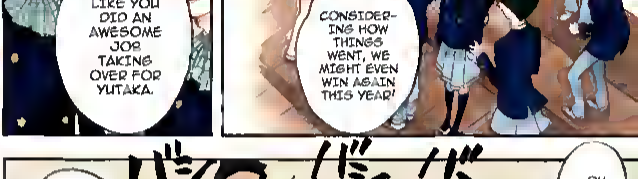
...NOT WORRIED AT ALL.
I'LL HAVE TO SAY FAREWELL TO BEING A SOPRANO, NOW.
TODAY'S PRACTICE IS GOING WELL.

THE EFFECT THIS CHANGE HAS HAD ALREADY IS AMAZING
CHOUYA-SAN USED HER OWN VOICE TO CAPTURE THE AUDIENCE AND REASSURE THE CHOIR

THE SOPRANOS' VOICES ARE FLOWING THROUGH THE WIND.
THE ALTOS' VOICES ARE RUNNING THROUGH THE FOREST.
TREMBLING THE EARTH.
SPRING HAS ARRIVED BEFORE US.

LOOKS LIKE YOU DID AN AWESOME JOB TAKING OVER FOR YUTAKA.

わあ…!
CHOLYA-SAN'S VOCALS WERE EVEN STRONGER THAN THEY WERE DURING PRACTICE
THAT WAS AMAZING! WE WERE EVEN ABLE TO STAGGER OUR BREATHING WHILE WE SANG!
CONSIDERING HOW THINGS WENT, WE MIGHT EVEN WIN AGAIN THIS YEAR!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I CAN ACTUALLY SING AS PART OF A CHOIR
OH NO
IT REALLY WASN'T THAT GOOD
YOU DID GREAT, YUTAKA!

バシッ!

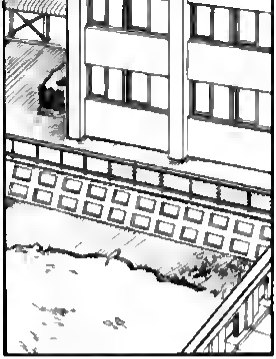
NOW...
YOU'LL JUST HAVE TO TRY TWICE AS HARD NEXT YEAR

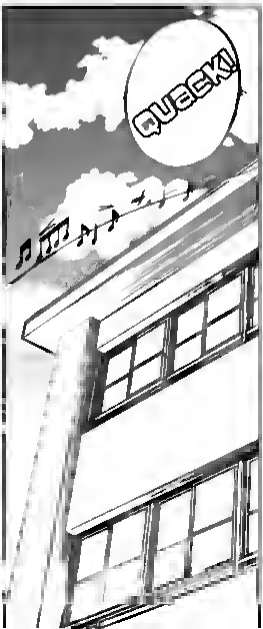
TO BE HONEST, OUR CHOIR ISN'T COMPETITIVE ENOUGH, YET
SENSEI THAT'S NOT FAIR!

……
CHOUYA-SAN, I'M SURE IT WASN'T YOUR FAULT WE DIDN'T WIN!
CAN IT BE ?
NOTH-ING CAN BE DONE NOW

I GAVE MY ALL WHEN I SANG.
EVERYONE ELSE DID, TOO.
...YEAH.
IF YOU END UP COMING TO MY HIGH SCHOOL,
...WE SHOULD SING TOGETHER AGAIN
IT'S A DEAL.

SHIRO-CHAN!




QUECK!

WOULD YOU LIKE TO EAT SOME ROASTED SWEET POTATO?

9

CREDITS

TRANSLATOR:
JEWELLEDWINGS
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OCTAVE

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